THANKSGIVING.

How the Holiday Was Observed and Celebrated. -

THE RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

Feasting and Delight at the Charitable Institutions.

THE VETERANS OF 1812.

Family Reunions Round Festive Boards.

Mr. Beecher Against the Reading of the Bible in Common Schools.

One thing more in the list of things to be thankful for yesterday was a brightly beautiful day-one of . those golden autumnal days, clear, sunshiny, the very air electric with vitalizing vigor-that linger long in the memory as a pleasant souvenir of the fast fading year. The weather, whose fitful vagaries have so much to do with our human weal and woe, should, in fact, enter into the formula of Thanksgiving utterances, and in the Thanksgiving sermon and prayer and grace, before or after the Thanksgiving dinner, as the case may be, with thanks for abundant crops and freedor from epidemics and war, there should be some expression of gratitude for pleasant weather and particularly if the day proved as yesterday did, an unexceptionally fine one. Radiant smiles came with the sunshine, and under its cheery influence there were warmer welcomes, and hearts given to gloom through the pain of pressing poverty forgot their sorrows at sight of the broad blue sky as they saw in its cloud! expanse the joyous emblem of a bright future for

Notwithstanding the Shakespearian aphorism about the tediousness of holidays, great capacity for their enjoyment is certainly a general characteristic of our American people. Our city, however, is the place in which special development of this talent is pre-eminently shown. Holidays can be gotten up here on slight notice and on the slightest pretexts. Thanksgiving Day, however, is one of the old, solid holidaysan heiricom of graver substance than the metaphorical cradle of liberty. The pious part of the programme, the praying and the preaching, is evidently, though gradually, lessening its hold on the popular heart. A general shutting up of the shops and stores, the almost universal suspension of business of every kind, the day's freedom from the treadmill of toll and the rousing roasted turkeys for dinner, are the main features that commend themselve's to the great metropolitan bosom and heart. In other words, Thanksgiving Day, as now observed here, has become a great general holiday, a day of vacation and consequent jollification, and particularly as being exempted from the restraints of Bunday, to clerks, mechanics, laborers, school children and almost everybody, in fact. Furthermore, it being the opening holiday of the fall and winter sea causes it to be enjoyed with freshly keen relish. And with such zest the day was observed and enjoyed yeswith such zest the day was observed and enjoyed yesterday throughout the city and its populous environs.
As will be seen by the reports below there was a good
attendance at the churches, where the customary religious services were held and discourses apposits
to the occasion preached. At all the charitable institutions, both public and private, there were
thewise appropriate observances of the day. Its
sbervance, however, as usual, found its cheerful
elimax in the good dinners dispensed to the inmates.
But after all the church services and outdoor recreations in Central Park and elsewhere and attendance at
places of amusement, which was unusually large, were
suly pleasant preludes or pendants to the home dinners
and the family reunious at the festive beard.

Domestic hamily set, they only bliss

Domestic happiness, thou only bliss Of Paradise that has survive the fall. And here let the curtain drop. Happy was that bousehold that did not have to mourn the absence of some loved one since the family gathering a year ago, tome one

To that unknown and silent shore.

The usual big difference in dinners, of course, de-reloped itself. While in the dwellings of the higher thus there was the turkey

-roast and a ragent,
And fish and scep by some side dishes backed,
more humble repasts covered the tables of the
humbler classes. In the abodes of the latter, howlees heartfelt gratitude. To some, unhappily, the day
was as other days—a day of perpetually pinching and
pitiless poverty. But all in all the day was a memriable one, as it always is, and one of unusual
hanksgiving for life's blessings, be the same more thanksgiving for life's blessings, be the same more

thankegiving for life's blessings, be the same more priess.

In the general joyous observance of the non-national holiday of Thanksgiving the local celebration of the anniversary of Evacuation Day was almost lost sight of by the great public of the metropolis. Its memory was quitely marked by the war-scarred and lime-worn veterans of 1812 and a few other military arganizations as well as by some of the older class of citizens who delight to call themselves thorough Knickerbockers. It might be noted in flying flags and a few blaxing rockets, but the universal celebration in our streets was that of Thanksgiving Day with its good cheer and its happy family reunions.

ST. PATRICE'S CATHEDRAL. Auspicious in every respect, the weather yesterday was all that could be desired, and while enjoyment was he order of the day on every hand the religious serrices held throughout the city failed not to attract the asual throng of earnest devotees. This was especially to in the Cathedral, which at the last solemn high mass was crowded to the doors, the members of the Catholic Union being largely represented. The Rev. Father Kane was the officiating clergyman, Rev. Father Kearney being master of ceremonies. At the termination of the first Gospel Rev. Father Griffin preached an elo quent and instructive sermon, the text being taken quent and instructive sermon, the text being taken from the parable of the mustard seed. The reverend gentleman explained the meaning of the words set torth in the Gospel and proceeded at length to show the influence which the coming of the Eaviour had exerted throughout all the nations of the earth. Prior to the advent of Christ there had existed many forms of worship, according to the geographical boundaries of countries all over the globe, some propile adorning the sun and moon and other objects. As they advanced in civilization and refinement history proved that they had become more corrupt and debased, especially in Greece and Rome. But when the mustard seed was planted in the person of the Son of God a great change ensued. The tree grew up with wide spreading branches, being the embediment of His holyChurch. He then alluded to the heresies which were subsequently established, characterizing them as were subsequently established, characterizing the the rotten boughs which had withered and fallen fro the rotten boughs which had withered and manin from the free. In speaking of the achisms which had taken place in the Church he showed that they occurred through similar causes to those which prompted the different kinds of worship in the early days. In conclusion, he carnestly exhorted the congregation to be steadtast and persovering and to disregard the attempts which were often made to tamper with their faith. The choral arrangements at the Cathodral were, as usual, were often made to tamper wite their init. Inc.
choral arrangements at the Cathedral were, as uscal,
excellent and exceedingly creditable to the able and
painstaking director and organist, Prefessor Gustavus
Behmitz. The mass relected for the occasion was by
Donizetti, in D minor, the solvists being Mme. Bredelli, soprano; Mme. Ellenreich, contralic; Mr. Berden, tenor, and Herr Weinlich, basso. At the offertory, Mime. Bredelli and Mme. Ellenreich sang the
ducti, "Ave Verom," with fine effect. Rossini's quarducit, "Ave Veren," with fine chock. Rossini's quar-tette, "O Salutaris," was rendered at the elevation, and in a very impressive manner. In other parts of the mass the choras of twenty-live well trained voices contributed much to the splendid interpretation of the composition. The services ended shortly after twelve v'clock.

SERVICES AT TEMPLE EMANUEL.

A large and fashionable congregation attended the Thanksgiving services at the Temple Emanuel yesterday atternoon. The music was superh. Long before Dr. Botthell, the preacher of the occasion, appeared, the immense gathering sat listening with every indication of delight to a succession of touching hymns of thanks of denght to a succession of louching hymns of thanksgiving. Dr. Gettheil spoke in glowing terms of the fa
wors the Aimghty had showered upon this land, which
He seemed to have marked out in an especial way as a
haven of retuge for the persecuted of every creed and
crine. He spoke of the singular growth and presperity of the Henrow people through the whole country,
and arged upon his hearers the necessity of returning
adequate thanks to the Dispenser of all good for the
hencets He had conferred. On the conclusion of Dr.
Gottheil's discourse the choir sing with considerable
effect various scared melodies, after which the congregation dispersed.

waiting in vain for over swo nours, they took their departure, not one of the old warriors putting in an appearance. Between twelve and one o'clock in the afternoon, some twenty assembled at Military Hall, in the Bowery, and, under the escort of Major S. L. Reeves, the company, headed by General Henry Raymond, preceded to the Continental Hotel on Broadway, where they sad down to a sumptuous dinner. After they had enjoyed the hospitalities set before them, speeches were made by Colonel John Hidrith, aged seventy-four; Major Charles K. Crowley, aged eighty, private Charles Combs, aged eighty-one; Nicholas Duff, aged eighty? A Van Name, aged eighty Samuel Ryckman, aged eighty-three, Christopher Romes, aged eighty-six; John Davenport, aged eightyparture, not one of the old warriors putting in an ap-Samuel Ryckman, aged eighty three; Christopher Rennev, aged eighty-six; John Davenport, aged eighty-two; Thomas Bloom, aged eighty; Parmenas Doxey, aged eighty five; Harvey Crittanton, aged eighty two; E. Dowd, aged eighty, and Adjutant J. Gould Warner. The whole affair was highly enjoyed by the Old Guard.

FIVE POINTS HOUSE OF INDUSTRY. The customary Thanksgiving services were held at

this useful institution. Some 500 children sat down to such a dinner as many of them had never seen before. Hundreds of the poor residents of the neighborhood not connected with the house were then admitted and bountifully served. The building was crowded from moon till late in the afternoon by visitors attracted chiefly by the interesting exercises of the children, consisting of singing, recitations, calisthesis exercises and tableaux, all of which were arranged by the lady superintendent, Mrs. C. M. Martin.

RIVE POINTS MISSION.

Everybedy connected with the Mission used his best endeavor to make the day a memorable one, and in consequence everything passed off in a manner which gave the greatest pleasure not only to the inmates, but hundreds of visitors who crowded the rooms during the day. A bountiful dinner was furnished to the 500 children who attend the school and to the seventeen poor lamilies who live rent free in the building. The grown-up class of pupils comprises about 400 children, between the ages of nine and thirteen, under the care of Mrs. Van Akin. The infant class is composed of more than 100 little ones, of both sexes, who are trained by Miss Susie McEvoy. The exercises of these infants were held in the class from and were of a most interesting character. The older children entertained with music and recitations as many visitors as could find standing from in the chapel. On the platform was seated Rev. James M. Shafer, who had been superintendent of the institution for thirteen years provious to last spring, when he resigned. On either side of him sai Rev. J. M. King, of the St. James Methodist Episcopal Church, and Rev. De Witt Clinton Von Gaasbeck, each of whom made a short address.

The institution is coing great good. The library, containing 1,400 volumes, and the reading rooms, under the care of Mr. John Campbell, are visited nightly by nearly one hundred readers. poor families who live rent free in the building. The

THE HOWARD MISSION. About 1,200 persons, comprising the poor children who attend the mission and their friends, sat down to dinner, which was served from half-past twelve t'll one o'clock in the hall of the mission. In the chapel the friends of the institution were entortained with singing and recitations by the children, led by Miss Kate Stark and Professor Meeks. Little Annie Sunshine, five years old, attracted special attention by her wonderfully precoclous recitations. Addresses were made by Rev. Dr. Deems, Rev. Mr. Mingins, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Converse, President Hatch, and others. The building was filled with visitors throughout the day.

THE NEWSBOYS' LODGING HOUSE. The day was celebrated in the usual manner at this institution. The boys were left free to pursue their avocation during the day. In the evening, after donning their best attire, five hundred of them sat down to a bountiful dinner, arranged under the supervision of Superintendent O'Connor. There were no special exercises, as the entire evening was consumed in disposing of the edibics.

WILSON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. Yesterday was, indeed, a day of thanksgiving for the scholars of the Wilson Industrial School, at No. 125 St. Mark's place. A worthy charity in every respect, it furnishes the female children under its charge not only with the basis of a sound English education, but assumes even a more practical shape, as it sends them out in the world accomplished housekeepers. This is due to Miss Emily Huntington, the matron, to a great degree, as she has invented a method of object teaching for little housekeepers, not as the famous Mr. Squeers taught, but by means of blackboard exercise. The friends of the school had responded liberally, so that yesterday upward of 300 little wives of the future sai down to a sumptuous hot dinner, consisting of chicken fricassee, the inevitable turkey and mince pies, and all the other solids and delicacies requisite to a first class dinner. Before the knife and fork exercises were commenced services were held in the schoolroom, which consisted of singing by the children and addresses by Miss Frissell and Mrs. Gisb. Besides making the little ones happy, upward of 100 poor families in the neighborhood were supplied with dinners by the managers of the school. due to Miss Emily Huntington, the matron, to a great

HOME FOR THE PRIENDLESS.

Under the auspices of the Female Guardian Society, at the Home for the Friendless, No. 32 East Thirtieth street, a grand Thanksgiving dinner was given, not only to the inmates of the Home, but to the members of the industrial schools under its supervision. It was a beautiful sight to witness upward of 500 little chiloren, dependent of course on charity, but not hemeless or friendless by any means, enjoying the feast which had been propared for them. The dinner was served at one o'clock; and it was not until the little ones had something to be genuinely thankful for that religious services were held. The little ones were in great glee,

NEW YORK INFANT ASSIUM.

The New York Infant Asylum yesterday gave a grand Thunksgiving dinner to the inmates of their three houses, viz :- House of Reception, No. 24 Clinton place; corner of Tenth avenue and Sixty-first street, and at the country branch, Flushing, Long street, and at the country branch, Flushing, Long Island, formerly the Soldiers' Orphans' Home, but recently donated to the asylum. The briends of the institution responded liberally, so that the managers were enabled to spread before the inmates a bountful repast of roast turkey, chicken, mince pie, fruits and other delicacies. There were no special services connected with the observance of the day beyond the dining of about 120 of the female inmates of the asylum and its branches and about 290 mfants, the fare of the latter not varying from the usual regence.

PEABODY HOME FOR THE AGED.

The lady managers of this institution gave the inmates a Thanksgiving dinner, consisting of turkeys, ice cream, cream cake, pies and fruit. The exercises

ST. VINCENT'S HOME FOR BOYS.

The boys who are cared for at this institution in Warren street, to the number of 200, assembled in the chapel at seven o'clock in the morning to attend mass. which was celebrated by Father Drumgoole, pastor and founder of the institution. The reverend gentleand founder of the institution. The reverend gentle-man, in a few well chosen words, reminded the lads of the benefits they enjoyed, and explained the purpose for which the day was set apart. As much of the good Father's time is taken up in receiving persons who visit the Home to make arrangements for a fair, which will be opened on Tuesday next in aid of the in-stitution, it was decided to give the boys a Thankegiv-ing breakfast instead of the usual dinner. Accord-ingly the boys adjourned from the obspect to the dining half where a substantial executions. ing breaklast instead of the usual dinner. Accordingly the boys adjourned from the chapel to the dinner half, where a substantial repast of poultry, pastry, &c., was provided. The appetites of the guests were very keen, but there was such an abundance that they all cried "enough" before rising.

The 200 boys and girls of the Hebrew Orphan and Benevolent Institute, corner of Seventy-seventh street and Third avenue, were regaled yesterday with a goodly dinner of roast turkey, with all the accompanying a dinner of ross turkey, with all the accompanying accessories of dessert, &c. The plodding drudgery of
the schoolroom was suspended for the day, and unlimited freedom of fun and frolle was allowed the
youngsters in the spacious yard adjoining the building.
Assistant Superintendent S. S. Samuels attended to the
day's fostlytics. There were no religious exercises. The
day was enjoyed in the same manner oy the boys of the
Hebrew Benevolent Association, which is connected
with the above institute.

THE FOUNDLING ASTLUM. Pies and bon-bons, toys and trinkets of all kinds, and the pleasant faces of the good Sisters made the four hundred and odd of "nobody's children" at the Catholic Foundling Asylum, in Sixty-eighth street and Third avenue, as exuberantly happy as little children could possibly be on Thanksgiving Day. The usual religious exercises for the grown boys and girls were had in the

HOME FOR THE AGED.

The Baptist Home for the aged of both sexes is one to fire their accustomed salute at daybreak at the Battery. About 100 persons gathered near oid Castic Garden, with a view of witnessing the salute: but after den, with a view of the witness and the salute in the matter of location and very defective in the matter of location and very defective

age. None of them are so decrepit as not to be able to move about. Yesterday they were treated to a bounti-ful dinner of the great American turkey, fruit and all the other accompaniments.

THE JUVENILE GUARDIAN SOCIETY. Yesterday, in an old mansion in St. Mark's place, erected years ago by some substantial old burgher long since gathered to his Dutch fathers, the Juvenile Guardian Society gave a dinner to several hundred children collected from the byways of the great city. The dinner was given under the active management of Rev. D. F. Robertson, whose huge form and venerable white beard harmonized well with the place. The object of the society, which yesterday celebrated its twenty-eighth Thanksgiving anniversary, is the education of children of the destitute classes, to which is incidentally added their ciothing such other assistance as may be required. Over 800 tickets were given out, and the volunteers, in addition, brought up the number of diners to 1,000 addition, brought up the number of diners to 1,000. The supplies sent in by the friends and patrons of the institution, consisting of turkeys and the usual Thanksgiving "goodies," were abundant, proving ample for all. During the interval exercises, consisting of singing, music and speech-making, took place in the school-room, where the happy faces of the children, all decently and comfortably clad, testified to the good offices of the society. Addresses were delivered during the day by the President, John Conacher; Rev. Dr. Galiaudet, rector of St. Ann's; Rev. Mr. Strings, Rev. Mr. Rebertson and others. Altogether the occasion was a delightful one and worthy of remembrance by the participants.

The prisoners at the Tombs yesterday, without disimination, fed upon fricasseed turkey, flavored with pork, &c. The provender, all except the potatoes and vegetables, was furnished gratuitously by W. F. Barnard, of the Five Points House of Industry, and the Matron of the prison, Miss Flora Foster. Warden Quinn, who has done much of late to make the inte-rior of the Tembs look clean and pleasant to the eye, made the day as comfortable as he could for the pris-

AT BELLEVUE HOSPITAL.

Thanksgiving was duly observed in this famous city hospital by the serving of a good dinner, with all the delicacies of the season, to the patients who could properly partake of it. There was much hilarity among the convalescent patients at the unwonted good cheer; but in the evening, when they assembled in the top of the building of the main hospital to listen to a musical entertainment provided for them by Warden O'Rourke, their enthusiasm—it measured by their applause—was unbounded. It was a touching sight to behold the pale faces light up with pleasure, and to appreciate the fact that the aches and wounds were for a moment forgotten in the excitement of musio and song. Many visitors were present at the entertain-ment which commenced at eight o'clock, and every-thing which could be done to render the occasion suc-cessful was accomplished by the Warden and his as-

ST. BARNABAS' CHAPEL AND HOME. At St. Barnabas' Chapel and Home, Nos. 302 and 304 Mulberry street, the regular Thanksgiving services were held yesterday morning. Rev. Mr. Holmes, the rector of the chapel, preached and administered the holy communion. A dinner was served, consisting of turkey, mince and pumpkin pies, and other good things, about half-past one o'clock, in which between 600 and 700 persons of both sexes and all ages and con-ditions participated. Services were also held in the evening, a sermon being preached by the rector.

THE TARGET COMPANIES.

Among the customary celebrations of the day the target companies form no inconsiderable feature. This is the only day that fantastical companies can be seen upon our streets, and, owing to the fine weather yes terday, a much larger display was made than has been

seen for several years. The Square Back Rangers turned out about fifty strong in open barouches, hended by a band. At the head rode Lord Dundreary, in company with Mary, Queen of Scots, followed by the Gypsy Queen and a sen of the Emerald Isle. Then came Mose, with his red shirt and long soaplocks; but instead of Lize he had under his escort the Plower Girl. There were numerous other characters, such as the Spanish banditti, the French Count and the fat Dutchm

The John D. Ducker Association, of the Fifteenth ward, turned out in fine style in a large stage, drawn by sixteen horses, going through Washington Park They were in citizen's dress, and made a very fine appearance. In place of shooting at a target they were blindfolded, and if they were able to walk straight to the target they would bore a hole with a gimlet

to the target they would bore a hole with a gimlet where their finger touched.

The employes of 'the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company turned out about 190 strong, in blue army coats and Granthats. They proceeded to Grier's Park, Harlem. At the head of the procession was one of the company's large tracks, drawn by sixteen black horses, containing over \$1,000 worth of prizes.

The Washington Market Musketeers turned out sixty men in white shirts. They made a creditable appearance.

The Dreadnaught Warriors, a fine body of men, made short parade through the city. The Thomas Waleh Rangers attracted great atten-ion as they passed along the street. The Golden Arrow Social Club were a neat body of young men, who dispensed with the rifle and shot with

arrows.

The Forty-fourth Street Volunteers turned out fifty odd men and visited the upper end of the main for

target practice.

The Wooster Light Guards were out in fine style and contended for over ferty prizes.

The Neighbors' Children, of Jackson square, composed of about 100 boys of the Ninth and Sixteenth wards, were out in a neat little uniform. They were remarkably well drilled.

The Young Engle Guards visited Jersey, where they passed the day shooting and enjoying their Thanksgiving duner.

giving dinner.

The Young Odean Rangers were out in glowing array.

No less than sixty different contumes composed the turnout. They caused a good deal of run as they marched along.

The Patrick Kilgan Guards showed to no little advantage. They were accommand by a few heard.

The Fatrick Kilgan Guards showed to no little advantage. They were accompanied by a fine band.

The Young fluidon Guards turned out very strong.
The Exceision Guards were also much admired for their next uniform and usually appearance.
The Young American Guards—Two companies bearing this name torned out. They each mustered a strong force and looked fine.

The McGrath Eangers were another fancy dress company, and several very rich costumes were among the party.
The Companion Light Guards were a several company.

orty.
Companion Light Guards were a fine body of They contended for nearly \$1,000 worth of The Union Light Guards were among those that

The Young Birnes' Guards looked very fine. The James Kennedy Light Chryster The James Kennedy Light Guards were out very strong. They contended for a large number of prizes. The Chamber & Wheeler Musketeers were out with 110 muskets. Their target bearer was a darkey who stood

muskets. The THE DAY IN BROOKLYN.

The observance of the day was never more general, The public offices, schools and stores remained closed. The churches of every denomination were open, and special and appropriate services were held in the fore-

noon, while in the evening several concerts were given. Collections were taken up for the poor and the contributions were generous. At the County Jall the prisoners were fed on roast beef and plum pudding at the expense of the jailer. In the Penitentiary there was a concert given in the forenoon at which the convicts were present. Extra rations of beef soup and ples were supplied to the unfortunate inmates at noon at the expense of the Bay State Shoe Manufacturing Company, who employ the services of the prisoners The venerable inmates of the Home for Aged and Indi-The venerable inmates of the Home for Aged and Indigent Females were regaled on boned turkey, cranberry sauce and other delicacies. The orphans in both Catholic and Protestant siylums were also treated to a least of turkey. At St. Vincent's Home for Boys, in the evening, several friends of that noble institution assembled and enjoyed the happy spectacle of the juvenile banquet which their charity had prepared for the gamins. The Helping Hand, Church Charity Foundation, Sheliering Arms, Maternity and other benevolent organizations made special provision for the occasion, which was duly honored by the beneficiarios.

rios.

e streets were filled with processions of targeteers,
young and old, and the grotesque continues of the
ival manqueraders,
tere were atternoon and evening performances at
several theatres, all of which were well patronized.

THE BEOOKLYN TABERNACLE.

The services were commenced at the Tabernacle shortly before eleven o'clock yesterday forenoon with a voluntary on the organ by Professor Morgan. Rev. Mr. Talmage offered the Lord's Prayer and read the lesson, which was from Genesis, eighth chapter, twentieth verse. The one hundred and forty-seventh psaim of David was then read by the pastor, who commented as he proceeded. The fitteenth hymn was then sung by the congregation to a cornet obligato. After pray ing for the President and the guidance and enlighten ment of the legislators of the land, Mr. Talmage alluded to the great calamity that had befallen the nation. It was a lesson to those in high places, and the example of the purity, honesty and integrity of the man was a theme for the pulpit, and the noble and

ployed in making clothes for the poor. The congregation then sang:-

My country, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty. The text of the sermon was—"And they pitched their tents before sunrise"—Numbers, xxi., 11. Mr. Talmage said it was wise on the part of the Israelites to pitch their tents before the sunrise while on their journey from Egypt to Canaan. The pest of life were men who were always pitching their tents towards sunlown, and looked on the dark side of the surroundings. Let such people stand out of our way, especially on Thanksgiving Day. He felt that the pulpit should be made a mountain of blessing instead of a mountain of ourses. He could, if he were so disposed, enumerate a thousand things to deplore, but on this bright day it was the duty of the individual and of the Church to give thanks to God and pitch our tents toward the sunrine. "Oh," says some person, "those are hard times." Why, do not the fountains flow from the hillsides, are not the same bright skies above us, and do not the stars and the moon illumine the night, and is not the atmosphere as full of balny life as ever? The harvest has been plenty, the granty is full, the wine press has yielded amply, the sheep have been shorn of their wool to make clothes and comfortable bedding for us. When sick we have good doctors to attend us, and there are the same friends near at hand to share our joys and sorrows, and, in fact, is not the whole world full of joy? Let such people stand out of our way, especially

full of joy?

on, GRUMBLING MAN, GET OUT
and let me look at you? (Laughter.) You don't look
hungry. That right arm that hangs by your side is
strong and full of life, which God has given it. With
your eyes you can see all the glories of this beautiful
Thanksgiving Day. Why, there is a man who is blind,
and who for half a century has not seen these things
which you enjoy. God, then, has been wonderfully
lenient to you. Within you is all the magnificent
chemistry of the body, and there are all the wonders of
the Divine architecture in your structure. Oh, comthe Divine architecture in your structure. Oh, com-plaining man, go into the madhouse and see those who are there, howing with terror. Go into the hospital and see the shattered beings who are there suffering. and see the shattered beings who are there suffering. But don't sit down yet, grumbling man! You have your family about you. You 'urnish them with bread. Who grew the flour? Who blesses you with all those bright eyes that crowd about your table? Why, God put all those blessings about your house from attic to caliar. Your house may not be as crinite as you would like townsee it, perhaps, but there was poor Job who had an infamous wife, while your house is full of love, sympathy and kindness. Have you ever thanked God for it? Oh, sit down, you grantless MAN, AND HIDE YOUR HEAD IN YOUR PORKET. Let this be your lesson and honesforth let your life be one of Hallelujah.

Mr. Talmage then proceeded to speak of all that God has done for this nation, and after wishing all a good Thankscriving appetite he closed his discourse.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH.

Every inch of room inside Plymouth church was, of course, occupied yesterday morning. The platform was adorned in a very novel manner, extremely suggestive to the congregation of the thanksgiving dinner awaiting them. On one side of Mr. Beecher's chair was a large basket filled with pumpkins onions apples and oranges, ip the spaces between which were red peppers, parsley and celery. This was surmounted by a sheaf of wheat. On a small table at the other side stood a tall glass dish, the top covered with flowers and ferns, while clusters of Malaga and California grapes hung about the stem of the dish, drooping to the table. The services were opened by an anthem, "How Manifold Are Thy Works." Mr. Beecher selected for his text Isaiah, xxxiii., 6-"And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times and the strength of thy salvation." I have chosen this, said he, as a fit subject and leading properly to the discussion of a theme in which all Americans are interested. I mean OUR COMMON SCHOOLS.

The influence of classes of picked men is not growing less; aristocracy is only a part of democracy. The influence of the common thought of a whole body of citizens is having more and more effect upon the public welfare and is developing specialties, for right rooted specialties are the stems which democracy throws up, just as the appermost part of a plant is in the air for the sake of the root under ground, and the higher is the servant of the lower in every well regulated community where the blood circulates freely. The progress intellectually of the whole society is peculiar work of our age. not the first who thought education necessary to man, but the first who have attempted to carry out the noble proposition that education is necessary to mankind. Only in our time has there been an effort to educate society itself all the way down. The colleges and universities must ask leave to be from the health and prosperity of the common schools. I do not underestimate the high culture of specialists. im far from saying that high education sh am in from saying that a high education should be given to all. You might as well say every man in an army must be a general. Every section of society has its time of enthusiasm—there are political enthusiasm and enthusiasm of morals and enthusiasm of amuse-ments. Now it is music and all the world sings or plays or whistles. Now we have not had our enthusi-asm about common schools, we must have a revival there. We have the material in this nation for the most tremendous

most tremendous

GROUND SWELL OF INTELLIGENCE

which a nation ever feit. If this enthusiasm is to be
continuous and result in permanent atrength, four
things are needful—First, That education shall be common; second, it shall be so conducted as to enable men
of all faiths to unite with the system; third, that it
shall unite all religious sects; fourth, that by its intrinsic worth it continues to feed the national confidence and national enthusiasm.

First—The schools of the nation must be common
and universal; common in the sense that they shall
abound where they are most needed. It is not enough
that Boston or Chicago or New York should have
schools, but the scattered population, are more needy than
the population, are more needy than

ulation, the colored population, are more needy than the population of our great centres. The children of the ignorant should be helped before those of respecta-bly intelligent parents. Be sure that any system of in-fluence that is strong enough to take care of the poorest will be strong enough to take care of the higher. The accommodations must be ample, comfortable and wholesome. It ought to be considered a misdemeanor and crime to poison anybody, and is, when done one by one but

wholesome. It ought to be considered a misdemeanor and crime to poison anybody, and is, when done one by one, tut
roisoning hundreds of Girls and boys
is not held crime. Schools where ten are placed where one ought to be, schools that are the crucial tests of the endurance of the little urchins, are a shame. We are also to make them better than any other schools. It is a shame for the cities of New York and Brooklyn to make jails and call them schools, to make holes and call them halls. (Applause.) And not only in behalf of my brother just landed on this shore, in behalf not only of the laboring man, but in behalf in the common strength of the continent, I make this plea. Every common school ought to be made so rich, so ample, that you cannot make a private school live under the drip of it. (Applause.) We are bound to make our common schools paintable, because one result of educating all classes of society together is that hoys and girls will know each other. Fut your dunce and my dunce and everybody's dance in the common school, where, no matter what their position in society is, they are richer or poorer according to what they can do; that is an influence that rubs men together in the meal and tends in after life to smooth the attribung. A common school is not juts what they learn out of the spelling book, it is a moulding trough where we make up the whole original batch. You can sweeten it after as suits you, but there it ought to be original flour. (Laughter.) But to undertake to march a triumphal procession into a city through a rat hole is not more absurb than bringing children together in schools where they are ranked and classed except as to their attainments. It is sowing the seeds of disintegration. The common schools lie at the bottom of our Commonwealth.

Second—Common schools must be so constituted that they may allow all political parties to unite in their maintenance. They should not be subject to the

Second—Common schools must be so constituted that they may allow all political parties to unite in their maintenance. They should not be subject to the ALIERNATIONS OF PARTIES.

If Goliath is to be slain it is a shame to send a wet nurse to do it; on the other hand if a babe is to be tended we would not send Goliath or David to do it. I know places not far from here where blackmail and favoritusm have been wrought by those who have been made the high priests of culture.

not far from here where blackmail and favoritism have been wrought by those who have been made the high priests of culture.

Third—Common schools must be so constituted that men of all sects may send their children without lear of propagandism. In a large scose all things are religious, but the school must not be regarded as a religious mattution. It is secular, and must be kept secular, and should be defended against saything that should make it anything else than secular. It is not right for me to read my Protestant Bible in a common school where substantial fellow citizens—Jews or Roman Catholics—sond their children, and oblige them to hear read wint they do not believe. (applause.) It is not right for the Koman Catholics to read their Bible and oblige us to listen to it. Fair play is the dectrine, and it is not fair play for the majority to rule the religious teaching of the children of the minority. (Applause.) Two or three years ago this doctrine would not have drawn the approbation of your feet—(laughter)—but you have lived to have your heads approve it. Does this make a godless school? In one sense yes. The common school don't undertake to educate the whole man. It gives him a start and then says to mother and Church, "Now you must do the rest." The school would be godless the same way the constitution of the United States is godless, because the word God is not in it, but if it is essentially just what is the difference whether the word God does not appear at all or is repeated forty times? That is Phariscelsm run mad.

Fourth—The common school must be so good to justify the enthusiasm for it. Reading, writing and arithmetic are three keys, and only that. There ought to be taught to the child, primarily, a knowledge of the child himself. There is no ignorance so universal and so unwarrantable as the ignoriance of men respecting the structure of their own bodies. Men are left to atumble blindly against all manner of influences that tend to destroy life, and it is a sin and a shame that a boy should not

of the common school with some knowledge or mem-selves and of the primary virtues that teach them how to live well. That is the oducation which this great nation owes to every child on the continent, and the State must see that the children are not cheated out of this dividend by ignorant, careless or venal fathers or mothers. (Applause.) No fatherhood carries with it a power to doom children, for ignorance in this life, to damnation in the life to come. The country must see to it that the children have this kind of education. (Prolonzed applause.) (Prolonged applause.)

THE DAY ON STATEN ISLAND.

Thanksgiving Day was observed as a general holiday throughout Staten Island, everybody apparently abstaining from work and services being held in the churches of all denominations. The Rev. Mr. Gill preached a union Thanksgiving sermon in the Trinity Methodist church at Factoryville; the Rev. Dr. Rockwell preached in the First Presbyterian church at Stapleton; the Rev. Mr. Relyea preached in the old wooden Methodist church at Rossville, on the good work of the recent revival meetings there; a fair was held for the benefit of Grace church, at Griffith Hall, Port Richmond. A vast turkey dinner was furnished at the Sailors' Snug Harbor, New Brighton, for 475 old wornout savlors. Dr. King, physician in chief of the Seamen's Retreat, at Stapleton, furnished a good dinner for the sick and disabled seamen in the institution. Mrs. Stokes, of Westervelt avenue, New Brighton, made over fifty poor families glad in that village, by the gift of a turkey dinner to each, The Castleton Rijle Association had their festival at Silver Lake, Tompkinsville, and wound up with a dinner at the Lake House. The Tully Light Guards had their annual parade and target shooting at Pavilion Hill, Tompkinsville. The German Schuetzen Corps had their rifle practice for turkeys at Bechtel's Park, Stapleton. The Village Ragamufins had their annual Thankagiving parade, dressed in all sorts of fantastic array, through the streets of Stapleton and Tompkinsville. A grand festival and hop, took place at Wilkins Hall, Elingville, in the ovening. There was a large turnout of sportsmen at the Sea View Driving Park, New Dorp, the sports consisting of horse racing, rifle and pigeon shooting. A company of Zonaves from New Jersey, under command of Captain Brusle, had a drill on the public square at Port Richmond, and there was a continued stream of travel on the different forries throughout the day, many people taking the opportunity to visit friends.

IN JERSEY CITY.

Yesterday was not simply a day of thanksgiving and sumptuous feasting in Jersey City, but it was also a day of quiet and repose. The stient streets bore evidence that all business considerations yielded for a day to the comforts of the family circle. The churches were crowded in the morning. There was not a single church in the city in which services were not held. Some congregations fraternized with each other and held a "united service." These were the First Congregational and Reformed churches, who worshipped at the latter church, with Rev. Dr. Van worshipped at the latter church, with Rev. Dr. Van Cleef officiating; the First Reformed and First Presbyterian at the former church, with Rev. J. L. Ammerman conducting the services; the Presbyterian and Reformed churches of Old Bergen at the Presbyterian and church, on Emory street; the Palisade Methodist Episcopal, the Central avenue Reformed and the West Hoboken Baptist at the Palisade avenue church, on New York avenue.

The outdoor sports were not numerous. The Hudson Zouaves paraded in uniform through the principal streets and proceeded to Elm Park, Staten Island. A dinner was furnished at the County Almshouse on Snake Hill, and the newsboys enjoyed a repast at the expense of the Argus proprietors.

THE DAY IN MASSACHUSETTS. OBSERVANCE OF THE FESTIVAL IN THE STATE PRISON-NAMES OF THE PRISONERS PAR-DONED-SKETCH OF CELEBRATED CONVICTS NOW UNDER SENTENCE.

BOSTON, Nov. 26, 1875. The Thanksgiving festival this year was more than usually interesting in the Massachusetts State Prison. There was the customary dinner of turkey, puddings and kindred delicacies, and also a series of dramatic entertainments, furnished by the best available outside talent.

THE PARDONS.

The matter of pardons, however, was uppermost in the minds of the convicts, and out of the 800 probably one-fourth of the number expected to be the recipients of Executive elemency. Warden Chamberlain, in announcing the pardons, made a friendly and wholesome address to the prisoners and then read the names of James Griffin, George L. Mowry, John S. Dodge and Daniel Young as those upon whom the mantle of lib-erty would descend. The unfortunate prisoners not favored with pardons cheered heartily the good fortune of their fellow convicts except in the case of Young, whose name was so loudly hissed that the Warden was obliged to call the prisoners to order. It seems that Young was only in on a year's sentence, and that a pardon should interrupt so short a term. But the fact was that elemency was exercised because it had been ascertained that the man was innocent. Mowry was sentenced for life for robbery in Worcester and Dodge was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for forgery, and was pardoned on account of being in the last stages of consumption.

PORGERS AND CHECK BAISERS. The most notorious of this class is the celebrated Spence Pettis, who is on his second year of a ten-year Spence Pettis, who is on his second year of a ten-year sentence for uttering counterfeit bonds and kindred crimes. There are most strenuous efforts being made by New York parties for his release, but there is not the least probability that the appeals for pardon will ever be heeded. The ground on which his release is asked for is that by his testimony in the New York courts some great deal worse criminals than himself will be exposed and sent to prison. James A. Coe, a Boston bond raiser, is an eight-year convict, who has seen better living in his day than that afforded in this reformatory institution. Among others of this class of offenders is Nebemiah Ball, a Harvard College graduate, who forged his uncle's name, and Charles S. graduate, who forged his uncle's name, and Charles S. Spencer, also a graduate of Cambridge's renowned University, has just finished a sentence on account of too much skill in imitating the handwriting of others.

One or two instances in the history of this Massa-chusotts prison would seem to indicate that crime is hereditary in some families. A man named George W. Goodrich was sentenced some years ago for chicken steaking, but was subsequently granted a pardon. A few months later, however, he was caught at his old business and was arang sentenced, and in a few days his business and was again sentenced, and in a few days his two sons followed him for indulging in the same class of thieving. When the boys came to the prison the old father said he was glad to have them near him, for dur-ing his absence he had been much concerned about how they spent their evenings. There is also another case in the prison where a father and two sons are confined for shooting a man in Cambridge.

they spent their evenings. There is also another case in the prison where a father and two sons are confined for shooting a man in Cambridge.

AN INVERSIATE OFFENDER.

The case of Daniel O'Brien, who is sorving a ten years' sentence for robbery, is probably without a parallel in the history of crime. He is only fifty years of age and more than two-thirds of his whole life has been spent in jails and prisons. This is his sixth term in the Massachusetis State Prison, and when his time is up he will have served a total of thirty-seven years in the institution. He is a handsome and intelligent man and his amable disposition has endeared him to all the prison attachés as well as to his fellow convicts. Just before his last advent here he married a respectable young lady in Boston, and she still clings to him in spite of his chronic weakness for crime.

Among the young fellows of the period who are incarcorated here is George Allen, the gay and festive lothario who run away with Effe Thursion, the handsome daughter of a Fall River hotel proprietor. He started with her for California, but was apprehended in New York. When thus checked in their elopement he still persisted that he would yet win the girl in spite of law and parents, and to make his word good he intruded himself in a defaint manner in the presonce of her tather and brother. His conduct in this respect was so aggravating that the father of Effle tried the law upon her lover for seduction, and the consequence is that he has now four years of state Prison life before him. He was considered one of the "the gloved" boys of Fall River, and he is therefore anything but contented him his homely prison gars. He can truly exclaim that "it is rough on George."

BOW THE CONVICTS AND EMPLOYED.

On account of the hard sinces not more than one-half of the convicts are employed, and the deficit this year will be \$67.738. Those employed are chiefly engaged in brush making, chair making, cotton tie manufacturing, and a few are engaged on machinery and bronzed metal goods.

metal goods.

THE MORAL, RELIGIOUS AND INTELLECTUAL STATUS.

There is a very superior school connected with the prison, and many who were utterly liliterate have acquired the rudiments of an education. Both Protestant and Catholic services are held in the chapel on Sundays, the latter having been recently introduced. About one-half attend the Catholic services and a large number of these requirity attend the conference. warden chemai Attend the Catholic services and a large number of these regularly attend the confessional. Warden Chamberiain says that the effect is good upon the discipline of the prison, and he rejoices that the established and fundamental principle of the constitu-tion—"berry of conscience for all"—has been such an entire success.

SPORTS.

Second Meet of the New Jersey Fox Hounds.

KILLING A BAGGED FOX.

Trotting at Fleetwood and West Side Parks.

PIGEON SHOOTING MATCHES.

Champion Racket and Hand-Ball Games.

THE JERSEY FOX HUNT-SECOND MEET OF THE SEASON-A BAG FOX KILLED AND A "DRAG The second for hunt of the season came off at Hack-

ensack yesterday.

It can hardly be said that the hunt was a decided

mocess, two very important ingredients being absent The first was the failure of the New York and Brooks lyn sportsmen to put in an appearance, as much was expected of them, and the second was the absence of the fox. The bagged fox, it is true, was present, but he being prematurely killed a wild home fox was es sential.

That wily animal utterly refused to accommodate the eager hunters and all day long successfully defied the hounds in their efforts to find his hiding place. The enthusiasm among those present at the hunt, however, was by no means abated, and the day will long be remembered for the exhibarating sport experienced in their earnest efforts to unearth the fox.

Although the start was originally set down for sunrise, it was nine o'clock before the horsemen gave the spurs to their steeds. The delay was occasioned by the agreement to await the arrival of the early morning train in the hope that the many gentlemen from New York and elsewhere who were expected at the chase and who falled to arrive the night previous might come. When at last it became apparent that Thanksgiving had detained at home the expected hunters, and that the chase was to be conducted solely by local celebrities, the word was given to fall in. The weather was charming in the highest degree,

The scene from the Mansion House, from where the

in. The weather was charming in the highest degree. The scene from the Mansion House, from where the start took place, was exceedingly lively. Fifteen horsemen, many of whom were

CLAD IN TRUE FOR HUNTING COSTUMES,
with knee breeches, velvet jacket, jockey cap and top-boots, sat on their horses eagerly awaiting the arrival of the hounds. The latter, of which there were ten, so on appeared, led by the voteran hunter, Joe Donohue, and a moment afterward a shout announced the arrival of Reynard safely caged in a box. The failure of the huntsmen on the previous hunt to uncartha wild for had determined Donohue in procuring a thoroughbred English animal, and the intention was to set him loose, giving him a good start on the hounds, and then to follow in hot pursuit. The doomed stealer of chickens looked through the bars of his box in much anxiety and appeared to know that upon his activity the sport of all present depended. He was a fine specimen of the bay species. At precisely nine o'clock the loud cry of "All ready!" given by Donohue, proclaimed the time for the start, and the assembled hunters pranced out of the yard in high glee, followed by about twenty sight-seers in carriages. The party galloped to the junction of the Paterson and Rindermack roads about two miles from the Mansion House, where they halted, and Reynard were unchained, and Tom Robinson, the whipper in, made a dash for the trail, followed by the dogs. His excited "Hi, hil" quickly told on the bounds, for within a minute the sharp, short yelps of the dogs announced that they had got the scent.

The excitement now became intense, and, amid hilarious shouting, on rushed the hunters. A dense brush hay before them; but, regardless of all obstacles, the horses plunged ahead. The sport, however, was doomed to be of short existence, for within ten minutes the hounds had run Reynard to ground.

"Inst" THIS ROUGE LUCK?"
dolefully exclaimed the veteran huntsman, Donohue, as he turned back in disgust at the sudden terminations of the hunt.

"Well, never mind

as he turned back in disgust at the sudden termination of the hunt.
"Well, never mind," he quickly added, "we'll uncarth a genuine red fellow and have some real old spora

yet."
Acting on this determination the speaker, dismounting, called together the dogs, and, with a look of determination, struck into the woods, closely followed by the whipper-in. An hour clapsed, but the strained cars of the anxious waiters iniled to hear the welcome cry of the hounds. Some of the more experienced, becoming impatient, began jumping fences. Others, less experienced, but equally ambitious, attempted to follow suit, and many were the ludicrous mishaps that occurred.

Suddenly the hounds gave tongue, and immediately Among the nearly 800 convicts confined in the prison there are, of course, many remarkable criminals. The most notable among the murderers is the sanctimonious Deacon Samuel Andrews, who committed a beastly outrage on an old and simple-minded man named Holmes, down in Plymouth county, and then attempted to conceal his crime by murder. He was only convicted of manslaughter, however, and instead of getting the rope and scaffold, he was let off with twenty years in the State Prison, seven of which he has already served.

Suddenly the hounds gave tongue, and immediately every one was on the alert, but it was a falso alarm, for the baying ceased as suddenly as it began. The dogs it was thought had scented a rabbit. The dwelcome sound was again heard, and the entire pack welcome sound was again heard, and the entire

Again they were called together and started off. The hunters now adjourned to the yard of the County Poorhouse, near by, and turkey sandwiches, furnished by the authorities of that institution, were keenly rehabed. At half-past two o'clock Donohue was seen galloping up the road with a genial smile on his face.

"WE'LL HAVE A DRAG HUNK,"
said he, and the announcement was welcomed by sepont.

The dead fox was quickly tied to a rope and Al. Van Horn, one of the local hunters, started over the mead-ows at a gallop dragging the animal along on the ground.

After giving him twenty minutes start the hounds were not loose and again the party.

After giving him twenty minutes start the hounds were set loose and again the party started. The degradickly gave tongue and disappeared. For five miles theirhase was highly exciting. Van Horn had taken actroutous route over fences and through brush, and istaxed the skill of the following huntamen to its highest capacity to keep up with the hounds.

All the way to Hackensack the chase continued, and the party arrived at the starting place at half past four o'clock P. M. highly pleased with the sport of the day. Among those who participated in the chase were Mr. Kirkland, of Englewood; John Ryan, of the Sporting Club, of Jersey City; Dr. Bernard Finn, who for forty years attended fox hunts in Ireland; V. Bassanta and Peter Kinney, the latter two being of Hackensack.

Nothing daunted by the failure to uncarth a fox, which, by the way, is attributed to the frost of theingh previous, the lovers of the magnificent sport in Hackensack have determined on another hunt on next. Monday at suurise, on which occasion it is confidently believed a large number of noted hunters of New Yorkand other cities will be present.

PLEETWOOD PARK-FIVE INTERESTING TROTTING CONTESTS-THREE DECIDED AND TWO POST-

The track was very heavy and slow trotting was the

onsequence. The attendance was very fair and the betting on the several races that came off was very brisk. Five trots were on the card, the first between Jo Brown, Adelaide and Major Allen; the former the winner in three straight heats. This was followed by a sweepstakes between Missouri Boy, Lyde and Lavina. Lavina won the first heat of this race and Missouri Boy the second, third and fourth and the race. The third was a sweepstake between Panic, Miss Drew, Blind Boyharness and St. George to wagon. Panic won the first heat and St. George the The fourth race was between Colonel Campbell and Judge Robertson, after six heats were trotted, of which each won two-viz: Judge Robertson the first and fourth, Colonel Campbell the second and fifth, and Josie the third and sixth, when it became so dark that the Judges, Mesura. Houghton, of Ogdensburg, N. Y.; G. J. Fuller, Nashville, Tenn., and H. C. Ditmas, of New York, postponed the deciding heat until to-day at 1:30. P. M. The fifth race, between Royal George, Bay Jack and Andrew, was also postponed, after four heats had been trotted, of which Royal George won two, and Andrew two, Bay Jack having been withdrawn.

THE PIRST RACE. First Heaf. - Adelaide, the favorite over the field. Major Allen had a trifle the best of the send off Jo-Brown second, Adelaide close up. Going around the turn and down the hill to the quarter-pole Adelaide broke up several times, but still managed to show in front at the post in 40 seconds, Jo Brown second, half a length in advance of Major Allen, who soon afterwards broke all to pieces. Adelaide was two lengths in front at the half-mile pole, Jo Brown second, eight lengths in advance of Major Allen. Time, 1:19. Climbing the hill on the backstretch Jo Brown trotted close to the mare until near the three-quarter pole; she shat about